

6-28-2011

## Iowa State Daily (Celebrate Summer 06-28-2011)

Iowa State Daily

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### Recommended Citation

Iowa State Daily, "Iowa State Daily (Celebrate Summer 06-28-2011)" (2011). *Iowa State Daily, June 2011*. 4.  
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# CELEBRATE SUMMER



IOWA STATE DAILY



Fishing for  
a good time

Photo: Lyn Bryant/Iowa State Daily





Bucket List

# Hit hot spots before summer slides by

By Joy.Wessels  
@iowastatedaily.com

While most students pack up their stuff and head back to their hometowns for the summer, some stay to endure summer school or work around the Ames area. Whatever their reasons for staying in Ames, students should take a break from those activities to explore the city and what it has to offer during the summer months.

Ames has many restaurants unique to its area that students should take the time to try, especially when in the mood for something cold on a hot day.

Make it a goal to try all of the different concoctions that Tropical Sno has to offer. Nothing beats deliciously flavored ice when temperatures soar into the 90s. This little shaved ice shack offers a wide variety of flavors at a cheap price.

Hickory Park, perhaps one of Ames' most honored institutions, has an extensive ice cream list that knows no end. Whether you're in the mood for a banana split, sundae, shake or parfait, there is sure to be something for you at

Hickory Park.

If you've never been to Italy and had gelato, Capanna's might be the next-best place to try it. Gelato is less deeply frozen, air filled and fat-filled than ice cream, which gives it an authentic Italian taste. Located across from Hy-Vee on west Lincoln Way, Capanna's gelato is created daily, and ranges in flavors from tiramisu to blood orange. You're given the chance to sample as many as you like before choosing one, leaving you to find the flavor best suited to your taste buds.

If you've been successful in trying different kinds of foods around Ames, then it's time to work it off with a little fun in the sun. The Ames area boasts several different recreational parks to take advantage of.

Brookside Park is a great place to grill out, throw a ball around in, or even bike through. Try to get a big group of friends together to grill out one night. The park offers grills, picnic tables and shelters for the times when the weather isn't great.

Ledges State Park, located just 15 miles west of Ames, offers 95 different campsites to take advantage of. Whether you're new to camping or a veteran of spending time outdoors, Ledges is a place for all to enjoy. As one of Iowa's most popular state parks, it offers 13 miles of hiking trails, boating and fishing on the Des Moines River and beautiful scenery that includes bluffs and canyons.

If you really want to get wet and wild, try out the Furman Aquatic Center. The park offers two towering slides, a three-meter platform, a 550-foot

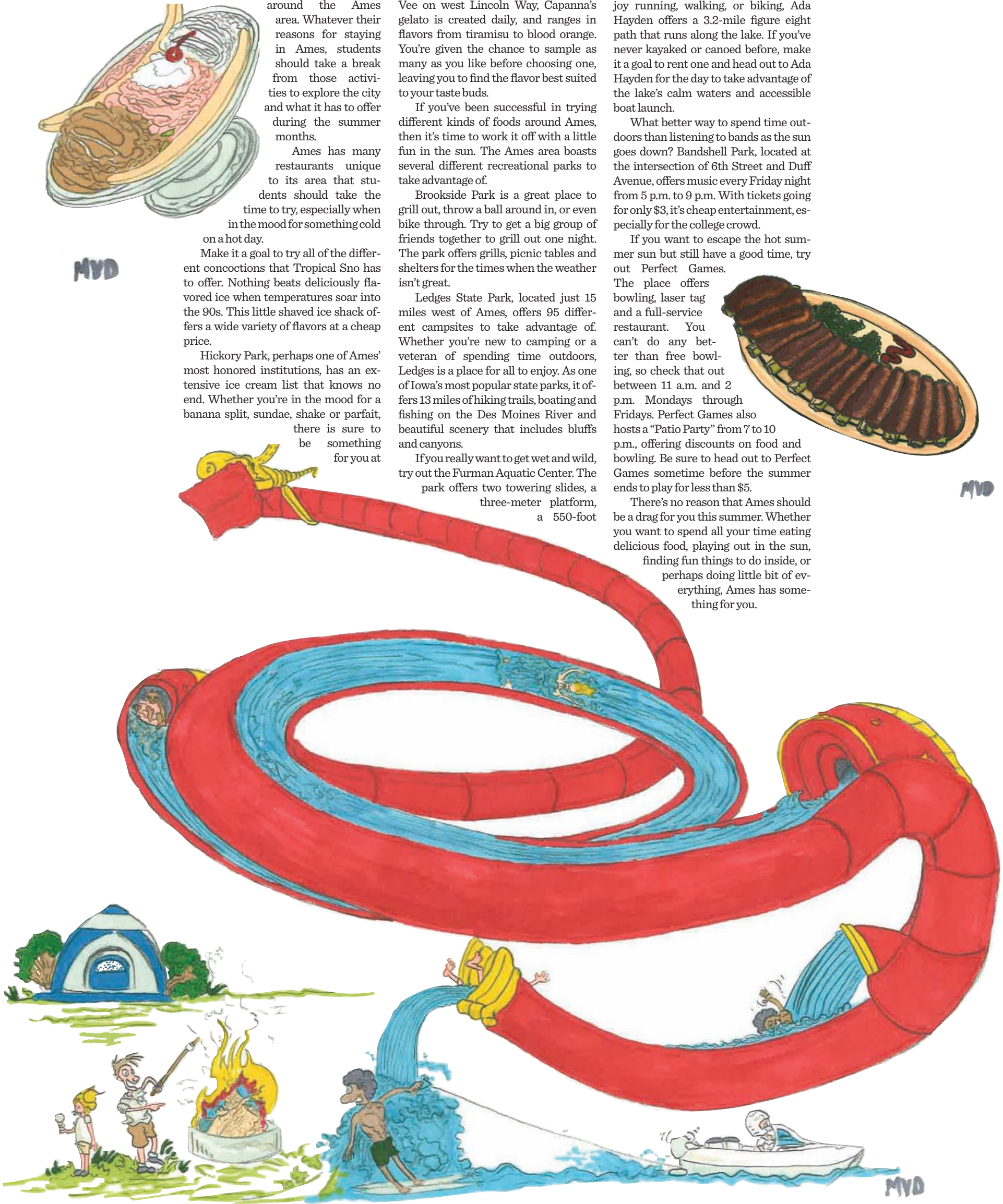
lazy river and 5,000-square-foot recreational pool. The best part? It costs only \$4.50 for ISU students to get in.

Two other places to enjoy Ames' scenery are Ada Hayden and Peterson Pit. They are located on the north side of Ames along U.S. Route 69. If you enjoy running, walking, or biking, Ada Hayden offers a 3.2-mile figure eight path that runs along the lake. If you've never kayaked or canoed before, make it a goal to rent one and head out to Ada Hayden for the day to take advantage of the lake's calm waters and accessible boat launch.

What better way to spend time outdoors than listening to bands as the sun goes down? Bandshell Park, located at the intersection of 6th Street and Duff Avenue, offers music every Friday night from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. With tickets going for only \$3, it's cheap entertainment, especially for the college crowd.

If you want to escape the hot summer sun but still have a good time, try out Perfect Games. The place offers bowling, laser tag and a full-service restaurant. You can't do any better than free bowling, so check that out between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Mondays through Fridays. Perfect Games also hosts a "Patio Party" from 7 to 10 p.m., offering discounts on food and bowling. Be sure to head out to Perfect Games sometime before the summer ends to play for less than \$5.

There's no reason that Ames should be a drag for you this summer. Whether you want to spend all your time eating delicious food, playing out in the sun, finding fun things to do inside, or perhaps doing little bit of everything, Ames has something for you.



Illustrations: Matthew Dunlap/Iowa State Daily

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Outdoors

# Fulfill your wish to fish

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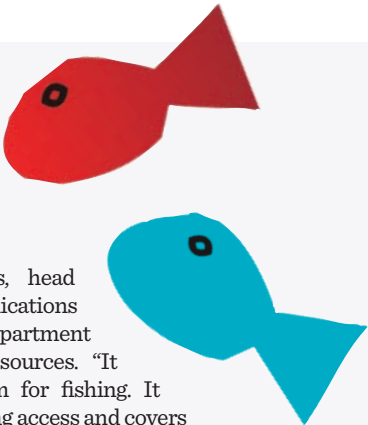
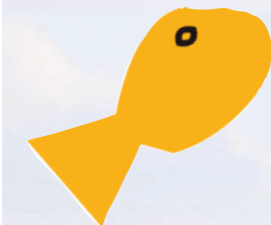
By Ben.Theobald  
@iowastatedaily.com

It's June, which means it's time to get the fishing rods out and head to the nearest fishing location. In the Ames area, there are a number of fishing spots. "The main fishing spot would be Ada Hayden," said Brett Flooden, sales associate at Jax Outdoor Gear. "Others spots would include

Lake Laverne and Skunk River." Ada Hayden has a 130-acre lake and is located at 5205 Grand Ave. According to the city of Ames website, people cannot fish from the bridge, dump live bait or clean fish at this site. There are also a few areas just outside of Ames where fishers can go. "Just north of Ames is Peterson [Pit]," Flooden said. "Another spot is McFarland [Park], which is just a little east outside of Ames." Peterson Pit is about four miles northeast of Ames, and is about 11 acres. McFarland Park is also

northeast of Ames. You need a fishing license to fish in both Peterson Pit and McFarland Park. Ada Hayden and Skunk River are both listed as being under Ames' jurisdiction by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. "You have to have a fishing license and abide by the rules," said Kevin Shawgo, superintendent at Ames Parks & Recreation. In order to have a fishing license, you must be 16 years or older. Both hunting and fishing go into the fish and wildlife trust fund. "That money can only be used to improve hunting and fishing," said

Kevin Baskins, head of communications at Iowa Department of Natural Resources. "It stocks program for fishing. It improves fishing access and covers some of the law enforcement for fishing." Fishing licenses can be purchased at the courthouse, at Wal-Mart locations, in hardware stores, and online at the Iowa DNR website. The Iowa DNR website also has the latest information on regulations for hunting and fishing in Iowa.



Kah Wei Chan, senior in mechanical engineering, fishes at Peterson Pit on June 12. There are several popular fishing spots in Ames, such as the Peterson Pit and Ada Hayden Heritage Park. Photo: Chloe Lim/Iowa State Daily

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# Celebrate July 4th

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## Nevada

July 4th

**7am-10am**  
Breakfast at Fire Station

**10am**  
Parade (Main Street from E Ave to American Legion)

**11am-2pm**  
Chicken Noodle Dinner at American Legion

**11am-1pm**  
Brisket & Pork at The Branding Iron Restaurant

**4:30pm-7:30pm**  
Kid's Games from Gee Willie Entertainment, Face Painting, Kid's Train Ride at SCORE Pavilion Area

**7pm**  
Concert by Nevada Community Band, SCORE Pavilion

**Dusk**  
Fireworks at SCORE Park

## Ames

July 4th

**8:30am-10:30am**  
Pancake Breakfast  
City Hall, Downtown Ames

**9am-11am**  
Bill Riley Talent Show

**11am**  
Parade, Downtown Ames

**Noon-3pm**  
Free children's activities and food vendors, Bandshell Park

**10pm**  
Fireworks

## Boone

July 4th

**7:30pm**  
Eve of Destruction, Boone Speedway

**Dusk**  
Fireworks, Boone Speedway

## Slater

July 2nd

All day Carnival

**10am**  
Kiddee Parade

**12pm**  
Mud Bolley Ball & Horse-shoe Tournaments (Register at 11:00), Grimm Park

**2pm**  
Amy's School of Dance, Nelson Park Stage

**4pm**  
The Gustafson's, Nelson Park Stage

**8pm**  
Teen Dance-Nelson Park in the Karl Chevrolet tent.

**10am-1am**  
Beer Tent, Grimm Park

July 3rd

All day Carnival

**3pm**  
Dog Fun Show, Nelson Park Stage

**5:30pm**  
Community Band & Choir, Nelson Park Stage

**10pm**  
Fireworks, Grimm Park (Rain Date-July 4th)

**1pm-1am**  
Beer Tent, Nelson Park

July 4th

All day Carnival

**10am**  
Parade

**12pm**  
Welcoming Ceremonies

**1:30pm**  
Slater's Got Talent, Nelson Park Stage

**4pm**  
Hypnotist-Sam Thompson, Nelson Park Stage

**7pm**  
Rob Bolin Concert

**1pm-10pm**  
Beer Tent, Nelson Park

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## Health & Fitness



# Hydration is key when exercising in the heat

By **Lea Petersen**  
[@iowastatedaily.com](#)

We're two weeks into June and summer is here in full heat. With the sunshine lasting over 12 hours it seems impossible to stay indoors. However, with the beckoning sunshine comes the extreme heat. Though being outside has its benefits, it's important for students to be aware of the dangers that could arise if they are participating in prolonged outdoor activities.

"The safest time to exercise outdoors during hot condi-

tions, like we are experiencing now, is either early or late in the day when the temperatures are a little lower," said Richard Engelhorn of the kinesiology department.

If exercising in the early morning or late evening doesn't fit into your summer schedule, Engelhorn has a few tips that can help keep you safe.

"I would reduce either the duration [of the workout] or intensity of the workout during these conditions and make sure to consume large amounts of water before, during and after the workout," Engelhorn said. "Breaks during a workout may or

may not be necessary depending on the length of the activity, but exercisers need to be sure to keep up the fluid intake."

Staying hydrated is the most important part of exercising regularly, and with the added heat one's body loses water at a faster rate than in cooler conditions.

While some athletes swear by the electrolyte-enhanced products like Gatorade and designer fluids like Smartwater, regular water works just as well.

"Plain water is probably as good as anything unless the exercise is over a rather long time period," said Engelhorn.

Fluid intake is especially important for exercisers during the summer. Exercisers are advised to consume large amounts of water before, during and after the workout. Photo: Kendra Plathe/Iowa State Daily

## Recreation

# Ames is perfect for any park lover

By **Joy Wessels**  
[@iowastatedaily.com](#)

If you're staying in Ames this summer to work or take classes, don't let that keep you from enjoying the many parks and outdoor activities this town has to offer. Whether you're looking for a good court to play sand volleyball on, bike trails to venture out on, or water to cool down in, Ames has something for you.

Brookside Park, located just off of 6th Street offers a variety of different activities to partake in. The park has many kinds of courts, including basketball, volleyball and tennis. There are also walking paths and grills to use if you feel like heading out there with some friends.

Ada Hayden is a gem because it offers activities for people with a wide range of interests. If running is your sport, Ada Hayden offers a great 3.2-mile paved path that forms a figure eight by the lake. If you enjoy fishing or being on the water, there are opportunities for that at Ada Hayden as well. With an accessible boat launch, the park is also perfect for those interested in using kayaks or canoes.

Emma McCarthy Lee Park is another park that offers a lot of courts for sand volleyball, basketball and

tennis. Located on Ross Road, the park offers grills and picnic tables that allow big groups to come and grill out. Shelters are available for rental only.

Bandshell Park in Ames offers a place for people in Ames to meet and listen to music while enjoying the scenery. Every Friday night, Ames on the Half Shell sets up bands to play from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Their music can be enjoyed by any who pay a \$3 entry fee. People can experience different bands each week while enjoying local vendors. Bandshell Park is located on 6th Street and Duff Avenue.

Like Brookside and Emma McCarthy Lee, Inis Grove has basketball, volleyball and tennis courts. It also offers both an expansive, open green space, as well as a nature area good for some easy hiking. Located on Duff Avenue and Northwood Drive, it also offers grills and picnic tables for parkgoers to use.

While these are some of Ames' bigger parks, there are also smaller ones located all over town.

If you want to get outside for a beautiful day of bike riding, a pickup game of sand volleyball with friends, or a night out to grill, Ames has many parks to explore.



Ada Hayden Heritage Park in North Ames is a good place for family and friends to go for recreational activities such as running near the lake, fishing, or boating. Photo: Logan Gaedke/Iowa State Daily



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Food

# Festive recipes to light up the Fourth of July

The Fourth of July is one of the most festive and beloved holidays of the year. It is all about bright colors and long-lasting traditions. When planning a party, the food you serve should be similarly bright and festive. Here's a list of foods that stay true to traditions, but are also interesting and exciting:

## Summertime hot dogs with barbecue sauce

By Katherine.Klingseis  
[@iowastatedaily.com](mailto:katherine.klingseis@iowastatedaily.com)



Photo: Kendra Plathe/Iowa State Daily

Grilling out is a popular activity during the summer, particularly on the Fourth of July. This recipe for summertime hot dogs with Dr. Pepper barbecue sauce is from the Better Homes and Gardens website. It revitalizes the traditional hot dog by adding an interesting, yet easy-to-make sauce.

- 4 tablespoons unsalted butter
- 1 large yellow onion, chopped
- 4 cloves garlic, chopped
- 12-oz. can Dr. Pepper
- 1 cup ketchup
- 1/2 cup packed brown sugar
- 1/2 cup cider vinegar
- 1/3 cup Worcestershire sauce
- 3 tablespoons tomato paste
- 2 teaspoons ancho chili powder
- 1 teaspoon finely ground white pepper
- 1 teaspoon kosher salt
- 8 hot dogs
- 8 hot dog buns, split and toasted

Directions:

1. Cook and stir onion and garlic in hot butter in a medium saucepan over medium heat for about 10 minutes until onions are tender.
2. Add all ingredients except hot dogs and buns to the saucepan.
3. Reduce heat and let ingredients simmer, covered, for 15 minutes.
4. Cook uncovered for 20 to 30 minutes until sauce begins to thicken.
5. Remove heat and let sauce cool for 10 minutes.
6. Pour sauce into a blender and blend until smooth.
7. Grill hot dogs on a grill for five to seven minutes.
8. Place hot dogs in buns, and pour sauce on it.
9. Add any toppings you desire (onions, pickles, peppers, etc.), and serve.

## Uncle Sam ice cream cone



Photo: Rebekka Brown/Iowa State Daily

When the Fourth of July occurs each year, the weather in Iowa is usually extremely warm. Most people will be looking for respite from this heat. Cold foods provide at least a little relief on a hot summer day. This recipe, taken from the Disney Family Fun website will not only cool you down, but also bring a smile to your face.

- 1 wafer ice cream cone
- White frosting
- Blue fruit leather
- Red and blue decorating gels
- Red and blue M&M's
- Whipped cream

Directions:

1. Place a scoop of vanilla ice cream on a plate, and return the ice cream to the freezer to harden.
2. Coat the upper edge of the wafer ice cream cone with white frosting, and attach the blue fruit leather to the frosting, wrapping it all the way around the cone.
3. Draw lines on the cone with red decorating gel, leading from the base and continuing until you reach the fruit leather. Using the blue gel, draw a ring around the base.
4. Decorate the fruit leather by drawing stars with the white frosting.
5. Remove the ice cream from the freezer, and place the cone on the ice cream.
6. Add blue M&M's for the eyes and red M&M's for the nose.
7. Squirt some whipped cream on the ice cream to make a beard.
8. Serve the Uncle Sam ice cream cone.

## Grilled corn with honey-ancho chili butter



Photo courtesy of Thinkstock.com

This bonappetit.com recipe uses Iowa's most famous crop: corn. Grilled corn is the perfect side dish for most summer meals. Honey-ancho chili butter adds a touch of spice to this summer standby.

- 8 tablespoons unsalted butter
- 1 tablespoon ancho chili powder
- 1 teaspoon ground cumin
- 1 tablespoon honey
- 1/3 teaspoons dried oregano
- 1/2 teaspoons coarse kosher salt
- 1/4 teaspoons granulated garlic
- 1/4 teaspoons onion powder
- 8 ears of corn

Directions:

1. Melt two tablespoons butter in a small skillet over medium-low heat.
2. Add chili powder and cumin to mixture and stir for 10 seconds.
3. Transfer mixture to medium bowl, stir in honey and cool.
4. Add oregano, salt, garlic, onion powder and six tablespoons butter, and mix until smooth.
5. Grill corn for about 16 minutes, or until lightly charred. Transfer corn to platter and serve with honey-ancho butter.

## Cream cheese and pecan stuffed berries



Photo: Karuna Ang/Iowa State Daily

Like corn, strawberries are extremely popular in Iowa during the summer months. This foodnetwork.com recipe was created by Paula Deen. Although they aren't the healthiest recipes, Deen's food dishes are superb. By adding cream cheese, Deen transforms an otherwise boring snack into a flavorful, filling dessert.

- 20 whole strawberries, hulled
- 8 ounces cream cheese
- 1/4 cup confectioners' powdered sugar
- 1/4 cup teaspoon vanilla or almond extract
- 2/3 cups chopped pecans

Directions:

1. Cut a thin slice from the bottom of each strawberry to make the berries stand upright.
2. Cut the berries into four wedges without cutting through the bottoms.
3. Mix together the cream cheese, sugar and vanilla until stiff.
4. Fill the strawberries with cream cheese using a teaspoon or pastry bag with a decorative tip.
5. Sprinkle chopped pecans on top of the berries and serve.

## Edible eagles



Photo: Karuna Ang/Iowa State Daily

This is another recipe from the Disney Family Fun website. Like the Uncle Sam ice cream cone recipe, this recipe makes for a very cute-looking dessert. Their appearance aside, edible eagles taste great!

- 1/4 cup white chocolate chips
- 6 large marshmallows
- 6 cashews
- Finely shredded coconut
- Chocolate sandwich cookie
- Black decorators' gel

Directions:

1. Melt the white chocolate chips.
2. Add a large marshmallow to the chocolate for each bird you plan to make, and coat each marshmallows using a spatula.
3. Remove the marshmallow and roll it in coconut, leaving one end uncovered.
4. Set the marshmallow on a chocolate sandwich cookie (such as an Oreo) with its coconut-free end down.
5. Let the chocolate set and use a toothpick to make a hole in the marshmallow.
6. Insert cashew into hole, add black decorators' gel eyes and serve.

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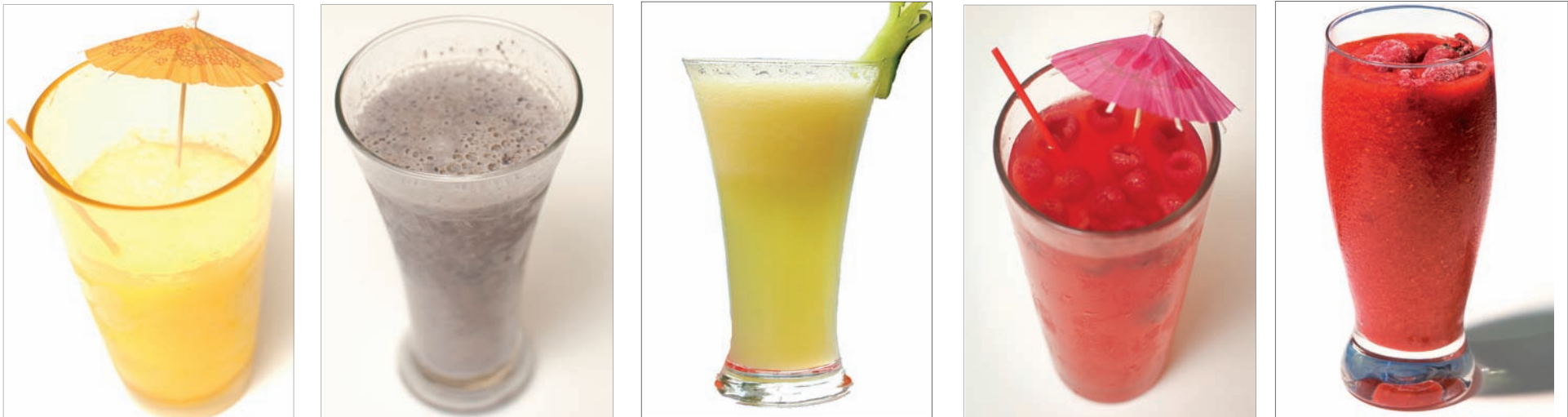
Beverages

# Tropical tastes to beat heat

When the weather outside is unbearably hot, there’s nothing better than cooling off with a refreshing drink. Here’s a list of five cheap and easy-to-make drink recipes:

By Katherine.Klingseis  
@iowastatedaily.com

- Hula  
Coola
- Blue  
Lagoon
- Honeydew  
Ice
- Tangy Citrus  
Lemonade
- Apricot-Raspberry  
Refresher



Karuna Ang/Iowa State Daily

Karuna Ang/Iowa State Daily

Photo Courtesy of Thinkstock

Karuna Ang/Iowa State Daily

Photo Courtesy of Thinkstock

I found this gem of a drink on MarthaStewart.com. Love her or hate her, it’s an indisputable fact that Martha Stewart is a domestic goddess. She knows her stuff. This drink is an example of her mastery in the kitchen. It’s a perfect mixture of pineapple, coconut and lemon. As you drink it, you will be transported to a tropical paradise.

This recipe is from the Disney Family Fun website. Don’t let the source fool you; this drink is not just for kids. This drink has as much flavor as any other drink on this list. Also, unlike the other drinks, the Blue Lagoon contains milk and yogurt. The addition of dairy makes this concoction perfect as a simple drink, snack or light breakfast.

No food-related list is complete without a recipe from foodnetwork.com. Of all the summer drinks on the site’s list of 50, Honeydew Ice is my favorite. It has a very clean, crisp taste to it. This is a great drink to have when you’re lying on a beach or next to a pool.

This fitnessmagazine.com drink is low on calories but high on flavor. Lemonade is a traditional summer drink. Tangy Citrus Lemonade reinvents the summer favorite by adding limes, honey and raspberries. With only 101 calories, this drink will allow you to indulge while still maintaining your swimsuit-worthy physique!

Drinking an Apricot-Raspberry Refresher makes you feel like you’re sitting on a porch of a house somewhere in the countryside. This recipe from goodhousekeeping.com is a little more expensive to make than the others on the list. If you’re willing to splurge a bit to make this drink, you will realize that it is worth the extra cash.

**1/3** cup sweetened cream of coconut

**2** cups cubed pineapple

**1** tablespoon fresh lemon juice

**1** cup ice cubes

**Directions**

Mix all of the ingredients in a blender for 15 seconds on high speed. Stop the machine, and mix the contents with a wooden spoon. Blend for an additional 15 seconds on high speed. Stop the machine and pour the mixture into cups. Place a mini umbrella in each cup, and serve!

**1** cup fresh blueberries

**4** scoops of vanilla frozen yogurt

**1/2 to 1** cup of milk

**Directions**

Combine all of the ingredients in a blender, and blend until smooth. As it blends, add milk if necessary. Pour mixture, add a cool straw, and serve!

**1** cup frozen honeydew melon

**1** frozen diced cucumber

**1** lime

**1** pinch of sugar

**Directions**

Cut a honeydew melon into cubes, and freeze one cup of the cubed melon. Dice a cucumber, and freeze the sliced cucumber. Blend the frozen honeydew melon and cucumber with the juice of a lime. Add sugar if needed. Pour the mixture, and place a cucumber slice on the rim of the glass before serving.

**6** large lemons

**3** medium limes

**3/4** to **1** cup of honey

**6** cups of water

**2** cup of frozen or fresh raspberries

**Directions**

Squeeze the juice out of six lemons and three limes. Pour the juices and 3/4 of a cup to 1 cup of honey into a pitcher. Add water and raspberries. Cover and chill for two to 24 hours. Stir the mixture, and add a few slices of a lemon or lime. Pour the drink into a tall glass and serve!

**1** can of apricot nectar, chilled

**1/2** can of apricot halves in light syrup, drained

**3** ice cubes

**1** tablespoon of honey

**1/4** cup of frozen raspberries

**Directions**

Mix the apricot nectar, apricot halves, ice and honey in a blender until the mixture is smooth. Add the raspberries and continue to blend. Stop the blender when the raspberries are broken but not completely blended. Pour the mixture into a fancy glass and serve!

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Movies

# Summer movies intrigue, entertain

Those wonderful summer months of sun and relaxation are the season when many blockbuster films appear. Here are my top five picks for films to watch this summer for the purpose of entertainment.

By Gabriel Stoffa  
@iowastatedaily.com

## “Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part II”



Photo courtesy of Warner Bros

There is no reason anyone in this country, or in other countries, should skip this. It is the culmination of one of the most epic and influential movie franchises to hit the big screen. This momentous finale is going to be action-packed. It'll also be a worthwhile watch for fans, considering the amount of time most people have spent reading the books and watching the previous seven installments.

Try to take the time to watch the entire series again, so as to have the entire Potter drama fresh in your mind when you step out to see its end. Oh, and try your hardest to make the experience a real milestone by attending one of the midnight premieres, as those will be packed to the brim with devoted and enthusiastic fans.

2

## “X-Men: First Class”

There is no need to have seen the other X-Men movies, but you might as well watch them anyway, just so you can see how much better “First Class” is. But really, with the number of comic films yet to appear this summer, there may be an even better one. Just to be safe, maybe you should go see “Green Lantern” and “Captain America: The First Avenger.”



Photo courtesy of Paramount Pictures

I hesitate to put this on the list. I am convinced it will make for better home viewing than theater viewing due to its quaint similarities to “E.T.” and “Close Encounters of the Third Kind.” Of course, I am a bit odd. This movie is a must-see for everyone in the way the final Harry Potter movie is, as it is a fine example of quality filmmaking despite its few flaws. When I point them out, I'm really just nit-picking.



Photo courtesy of Points North Films

You gotta mix a little horror with your summer fun at some point. This is my pick to make you wonder about what is lurking around the bend. OK, fine, it isn't really that kind of horror; it is more like psychological thriller horror, but it has that nice “Blair Witch Project” feel without that movie's dizzying camerawork and annoying snotty-nosed confessions.

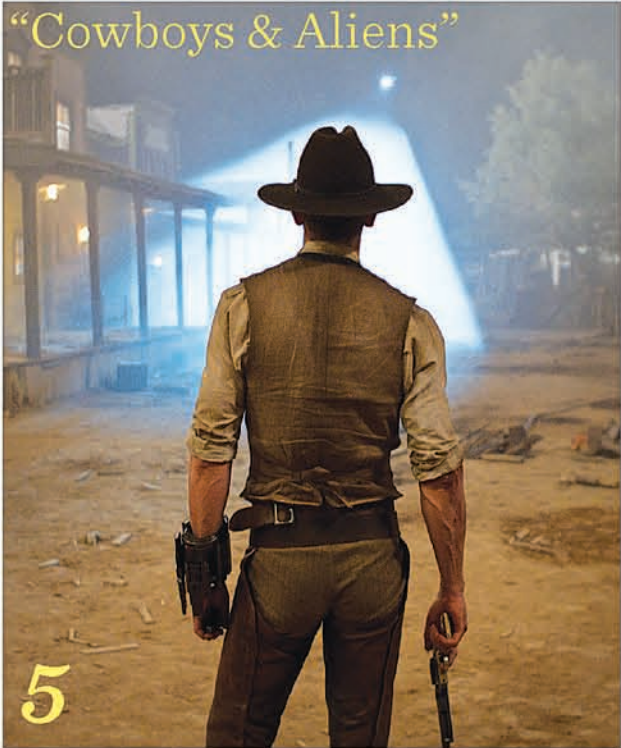


Photo courtesy of Universal Pictures

Yeah, yeah, I know, this movie looks like it is going to be super-cheesy and destined for the annals of bad sci-fi, but hear me out. I believe this movie is going to be so ridiculous it will be a fun romp. Just think about it for a minute - there are cowboys fighting aliens. Rugged and rowdy good ol' boys duking it out with creepy crawlies from space. When “Starship Troopers” came out, people thought it looked terrible, but it is a really fun movie to watch and rewatch.

## Honorable Mention

## “Transformers: Dark Side of the Moon”

It will probably be as bad as the previews make it look, but it will still look and sound awesome. Also, big explosion movies are a staple of summer film watching.



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### Pina Gentile

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Gentile earned her Ladies Professional Golf Association (LPGA) Teaching and Club Professional Division card in 2000. She has worked as an assistant golf professional at Crestwicke Country Club in Bloomington, Ill., and Edgewood Valley Country Club in LaGrange, Ill.



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Music

# The ideal soundtrack for the summer

By Katherine.Klingseis  
[@iowastatedaily.com](mailto:katherine.klingseis@iowastatedaily.com)

## “Rolling in the Deep” by Adele



Photo courtesy of Christopher Macsurak/Flickr

“Rolling in the Deep” is Adele’s lead-off single for her second album, “21.” Since its Nov. 10, 2010 release, “Rolling in the Deep” has topped the Billboard Hot 100 list five times. “Rolling in the Deep” certainly isn’t like previous summer songs like “Boom Boom Pow” or “I Kissed a Girl,” but maybe that’s why people like it so much. Adele causes her listeners to think and evaluate life. Maybe summer 2011 is the summer of introspection, and “Rolling in the Deep” is the perfect song to aid the self-examination process.



Photo courtesy of Chrizta T/Flickr

For many people, the summer is a time to relax and take it easy. Bruno Mars’ “The Lazy Song” is perfect for those people. The song is great to listen to while basking in the sun. Mars’ smooth voice is capable of making you forget all of your worries. Bruno Mars is no newcomer when it comes to releasing chart-topping singles. His first two singles, “Grenade” and “Just the Way You Are” both reached number one on the Billboard Hot 100 list. While his first two singles were love ballads, “The Lazy Song” is a bob-your-head, feel-good song.

## “E.T.” by Katy Perry

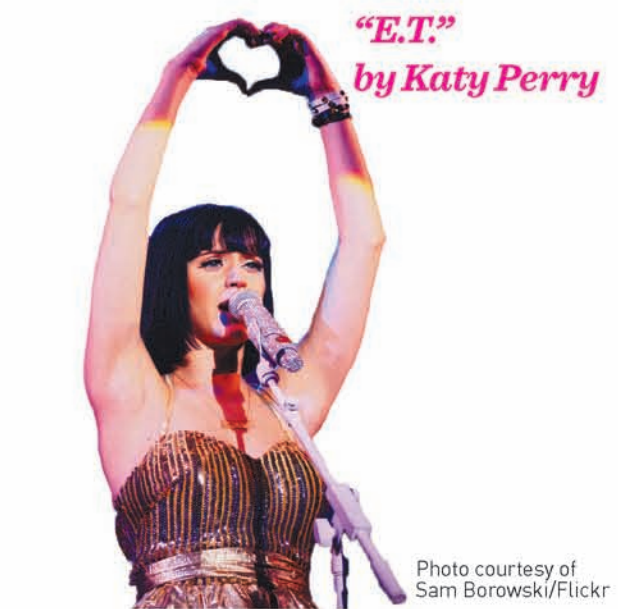


Photo courtesy of Sam Borowski/Flickr

With two previous “summer songs” under her belt, Katy Perry has proven that she knows how to top the charts in the summer. Perry is all about producing catchy, light-hearted songs. Unlike Adele and Lady Gaga, Perry’s intentions when writing a song is not to inspire or shock but to merely make a song that people sing and dance to. “E.T.,” however, is a little different than “I Kissed a Girl” and “California Gurls.” To begin, the tempo is slower than the first two. Perry’s voice is also a bit deeper in “E.T.” compared to her other songs. Furthermore, there is a techno beat in the background during the chorus. All of these aspects could mean that “E.T.” will perform worse than Perry’s other singles. Or, they could mean that the single will be her biggest hit.

## “Till the World Ends” by Britney Spears

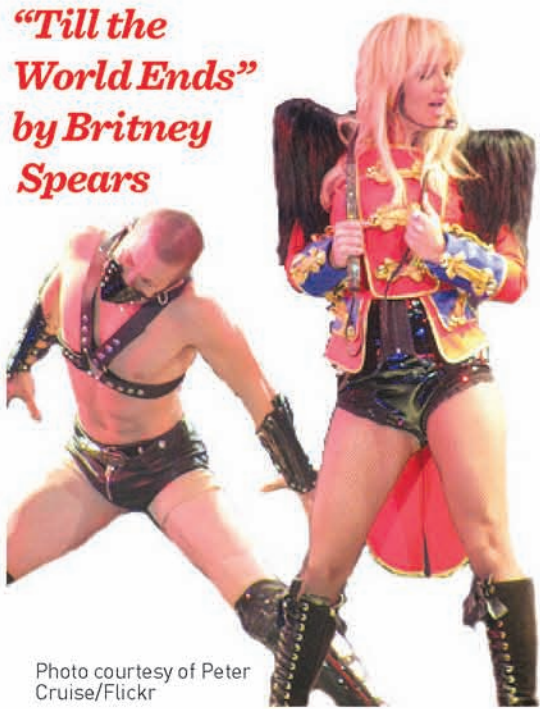


Photo courtesy of Peter Cruise/Flickr

With all this end-of-the-world talk, Britney Spears’ “Till the World Ends” may be the best song to define summer 2011. Harold Camping, however, is not the only reason why Spears’ song may nab the “song of the summer” spot. Point blank, Britney Spears knows how to produce hit songs. Even when her personal life is in shambles, this girl can still make a good song. “Till the World Ends” is reminiscent of “Womanizer,” “Gimme More” and even “Toxic.” With their catchy choruses and fast tempos, these songs are meant to get the listeners dancing. If you believe that the world will end on Oct. 21, why not dance the rest of your life away? Depending upon how many followers Harold Camping has, “Till the World Ends” may be this year’s song of the summer.



Photo courtesy of Bobby Charlton of Gateshead, Tyne & Wear, England

## “The Edge of Glory” by Lady Gaga

Lady Gaga, above all else, is a talented musician. Behind her odd fashion choices and bizarre hairstyles, Lady Gaga has a voice that is both unique and beautiful. Beginning with “Lovegame” and “Poker Face,” Lady Gaga has continually produced hit after hit for the past two years. Her newest singles, however, have not been as popular as her past ones. “Judas” and “Born this Way” have powerful messages. This is a distinctive change from Gaga’s past singles. Americans may not be ready for this new Lady Gaga. That is why “The Edge of Glory” will offer Gaga her best chance at grasping the title of the “song of the summer.” “The Edge of Glory” is much more upbeat than Gaga’s other singles from her newest album “Born this Way.” “The Edge of Glory” still has a powerful message, but the message is subtle, and is overshadowed by the fast beat. This may mean that the song will perform better than “Born this Way” or “Judas.”

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